

## **BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Suspension or	)	
	)	CONSENT ORDER OF
Revocation of the Educator Certificate	)	
	)	VOLUNTARY SURRENDER
of Jamie A. Poulas	)	
	)	
Certificate 137440	)	

### **SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on July 12, 2006. On August 25, 1998, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Jamie A. Poulas notice of her right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible revocation of her South Carolina educator certificate 137440 by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Ms. Poulas subsequently requested a hearing, by letter received by the Department on September 14, 1998. Because Ms. Poulas' was incarcerated at the time, the Department's Office of General Counsel advised Ms. Poulas by letter of September 17, 1998, to contact the Office of General Counsel upon her release so that her hearing could be scheduled. Upon learning that Ms. Poulas had been released from prison and that she had not contacted the Office of General Counsel, Ms. Poulas was advised by letter of June 23, 2006, that she could voluntarily surrender her certificate in lieu of the State Board pursuing revocation action. Ms. Poulas agreed to the voluntary surrender of her certificate and after considering the information presented, the State Board voted to accept the voluntary surrender of Ms. Poulas' certificate.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

Ms. Poulas holds a South Carolina educator certificate that expired in 1998. She previously worked as a teacher in Florence County School District

One from 1985 to 1991. On April 16, 1998, Ms. Poulas was convicted on numerous crack cocaine charges and sentenced to six years incarceration.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (1991). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United States, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that there is substantial evidence to support its decision to accept the voluntary surrender of Ms. Poulas’ certificate. At the end of three years from the date of this Order, Ms. Poulas may reapply for a South Carolina educator certificate by written request to the Office of Educator Certification of the Department, subject to a character and fitness review by the State Board.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ Joe Isaac  
Joe Isaac, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
July 12, 2006

I, Jamie A. Poulas, S.C. Educator Certificate 137440, do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on June 12, 2006.

/S/ Jamie A. Poulas  
Jamie A. Poulas

7/3/2006  
Date